CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A digital video recording and playback method adapted for

"live-pause" recording and playback, said method comprising:

a) receiving a first program;

b) receiving a program guide comprising program length information about the

first program;

c) converting said program length information into a corresponding buffer

memory size;

d) establishing a buffer memory matching the buffer memory size determined in

c);

e) recording the first program in the buffer memory established in d) wherein said

buffer memory size matches the size needed to record the first program; and

f) playing back a portion of the recorded first program during a "live-pause"

operation wherein the playing back occurs simultaneously with the recording.

2. (Previously presented) The method in claim 1, wherein said program length

information comprises the scheduled end time of the first program.

3. (Previously presented) The method in claim 1, wherein said program length

information comprises the scheduled start time of the first program.

4. (Previously presented) The method in claim 1, further comprising:

at the direction of a user, designating the first program stored in said buffer

memory for long-term storage.

5. (Previously presented) The method in claim 1, wherein if the first program is of

indefinite length, said program length information comprises as a default, a fixed length.

6. (Previously presented) The method in claim 1, further comprising:

releasing said established buffer memory from recording the first program, and

making its memory space available to part of another buffer memory if needed, after the

first program has been recorded.

7. (Previously presented) The method in claim 1, further comprising:

releasing said established buffer memory from recording the first program, and

making its memory space available to part of another buffer memory if needed,

when a user tunes in to another program.

8. (Previously presented) The method in claim 1, further comprising:

releasing said established buffer memory from recording the first program, and

making its memory space available to part of another buffer memory if needed, when a

user directs that recording be halted.

9. (Currently amended) A digital video recording and playback system adapted for "live-pause" recording and playback, said system comprising:

a tuner that receives a first program; ~~and~~

a receiver that receives a program guide comprising program length information about the first program;

a converter adapted to convert said program length information into a corresponding buffer memory size;

at least one buffer memory established and sized to match that determined by said converter, said buffer memory being adapted to record the first program wherein said buffer memory size matches the size needed to record the first program; and

a display that displays a portion of the recorded first program during a "live-pause" operation while the first program is being simultaneously recorded in the buffer memory.

10. (Previously presented) The system in claim 9, wherein said program length information comprises a scheduled end time of the first program.

11. (Previously presented) The system in claim 9, wherein said program length information comprises a scheduled start time of the first program.

12. (Previously presented) The system in claim 9, wherein said established buffer memory is adapted to become, at the direction of a user, part of a long-term memory for the long-term storage of the first program stored therein.

13. (Previously presented) The system in claim 9, wherein if the first program is of

indefinite length, said program length information comprises as a default, a fixed length.

14. (Previously presented) The system in claim 9, wherein said established buffer

memory is adapted to be released from recording the first program, and making its

memory space available to part of another buffer memory if needed, when the first

program has been recorded.

15. (Previously presented) The system in claim 9, wherein said established buffer

memory is adapted to be released from recording the first program, and making its

memory space available to part of another buffer memory if needed, when a user tunes in

to another program.

16. (Previously presented) The system in claim 9, wherein said established buffer

memory is adapted to be released from recording the first program, and making its

memory space available to part of another buffer memory if needed, when a user directs

the recording of the first program to be halted.

17. (Currently amended) A digital video recording and playback method adapted for

"live-pause" recording and playback, said method comprising:

        a) receiving a first program;

b) adaptively establishing a buffer memory having a size adequate to record the

first program;

c) recording the first program in the buffer memory established in step b); and

d) playing back a portion of the recorded first program during a "live-pause"

operation wherein the playing back is simultaneous with the recording.

18. (Previously presented) The method in claim 17, wherein the size of said buffer

memory is set to one of a plurality of fixed sizes to match an estimated size of the first

program.

19. (Previously presented) The method in claim 17, further comprising:

at the direction of a user, designating the first program stored in said buffer

memory for long-term storage.

20. (Previously presented) The method in claim 17, further comprising:

releasing said established buffer memory from recording the first program, and

making its memory space available to part of another buffer memory if needed, when the

first program has been recorded.

21. (Previously presented) The method in claim 17, further comprising:

releasing said established buffer memory from recording the first program, and

making its memory space available to part of another buffer memory if needed, when a

user tunes in to another program.

22. (Previously presented) The method in claim 17, further comprising:

releasing said established buffer memory from recording the first program, and

making its memory space available to part of another buffer memory if needed, when a

user directs that recording of the first program be halted.

23-28. (Cancelled)